# AG. WATER QUALITY ACT



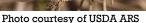




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**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** 

**FUNDING ASSISTANCE** 

**IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS** 

## MULCHING

### CROPS BMP #8



#### **Description:**

The application of plant residues or other suitable materials produced off site, to the land surface.

#### **AWQA Minimum Requirements:**

Apply plant residue (other than that produced on the site), wood fiber or by-products, or other suitable material to the soil surface to conserve moisture, prevent surface compaction or crusting, reduce runoff and erosion, control weeds, and help establish plant cover.

#### Recommendations:

Most mulches provide temporary protection from 2 or 3 months up to one year. Therefore, establish permanent vegetation or other erosion control practices as rapidly as practical.

Consider hydroseeding mulch with seed and fertilizer on steep and difficult sites.

#### **Technical References**

#### <u>USDA/NRCS Publications</u>

Practice Code 484 Mulching

#### **Funding Assistance Options**

#### State Cost Share

• At this time, no cost share assistance is available for this as a stand-alone practice.

#### Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAFC)

• Select from available program options here.

#### NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Select from available program options here.

#### **Important Considerations**

Water Quality Benefit (0-0000): 00 (KEY: 0=good, 0000=best: see STEPL Model)

#### Wildlife Benefits:

Contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife's Habitat Improvement Program on how to improve wildlife habitat with select BMPs (1-800-858-1549).